

CLAIMS

1. (amended) A functionalized polymer having a structure represented by the following formula (1):

-(CW_X-CY_Z)_n-

wherein, W denotes a carbohydrate chain including a structure corresponding to at least a portion of the basic skeletal structure of a glycosaminoglycan and comprising 2-50 constituent disaccharide units having an average of at least one sulfate group, X, Y and Z denotes any substituent group including a hydrogen atom, and n denotes the number of repeating unit of at least 1.

2. A functionalized polymer in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that said carbohydrate chain is a decomposed carbohydrate chain obtained by chemical decomposition of a natural glycosaminoglycan, and said decomposed carbohydrate chain is bonded to the polymer main chain via a functional group formed by said chemical decomposition.
3. A functionalized polymer in accordance with claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said glycosaminoglycan is heparin/heparan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate or a partially desulfated modification thereof.
4. ~~(1)~~ (deleted)
5. (amended) A medical instrument characterized by being surface-modified by a functionalized polymer in accordance with any one of claims 1-3.

Amendments Under Article 34 of PCT filed on **March, 30, 2001**

6. (amended) A cell growth control agent characterized by containing a functionalized polymer in accordance with any one of claims 1-3.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oded Al". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "O" at the beginning.